

Serial No. 09/805,483  
Filed March 13, 2001  
Response to Office Action

### Amendments to the Claims

Please cancel claims 12, and 39-50. Claims 1, 5, 6, 8-11, and 13 are pending in the application.

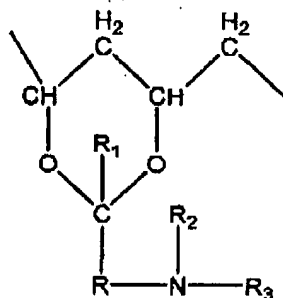
### Listing of the Claims

1. (presently amended) A microparticle formed from macromers having a polymeric backbone comprising units having a 1,2-diol or 1,3-diol structure and at least two pendant chains bearing crosslinkable groups, wherein the crosslinkable groups are crosslinked via free radical polymerization.

2. - 4. (cancelled)

5. (previously presented) The microparticle of claim 1, wherein the backbone polymer comprises poly(vinyl alcohol) (PVA) and copolymers thereof.

6. (previously presented) The microparticle of claim 1, wherein the macromer has the formula:



in which R is a linear or branched C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> alkylene or a linear or branched C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub> alkane; R<sub>1</sub> is hydrogen, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, or a cycloalkyl; R<sub>2</sub> is hydrogen or a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl; and R<sub>3</sub> is an olefinically unsaturated electron attracting copolymerizable radical having up to 25 carbon atoms.

7. (cancelled)

8. (previously presented) The microparticle of claim 1, further comprising an active agent.

9. (previously presented) The microparticle of claim 8, wherein the microparticle releases the active agent over a period of time ranging from about 1 day to 6 months.

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10. (previously presented) The microparticle of claim 1, wherein the microparticle is biodegradable.

11. (previously presented) The microparticle of claim 1, further comprising a contrast agent.

12. (cancelled) The microparticle of claim 1, wherein the crosslinkable groups are crosslinked via free radical polymerization.

13. (presently amended) The microparticle of claim [11] 1, wherein the free radical polymerization is redox initiated.

14. - 50. (cancelled)